

Astronomy Survey of Interest

Class Copy

Directions: Please rank your interest in the following topics using the scale provided. This is a survey to help us make this class more relevant and interesting for you. Topics with the greatest level of interest will be covered; in essence, you will help to create this class.

- A. Highly interested in this topic!!!
- B. Interested in this topic!!
- C. Sounds somewhat interesting!
- D. Could live with it.
- E. Could live without it.

1. **The Night Sky and Constellations:** Overview and appreciation of the various types of stars and Messier objects in the night sky. You will learn how to use a Polaris time clock, determine relative distances based on visual qualities of objects, as well as how to read and use a sky map. Etc...
2. **Planet systems:** Study the various planets in our solar system as well as possible theories of formation. Look beyond our solar system and study planets and solar systems in formation. Learn what current exploration is being made to learn more, Etc...
3. **Asteroids/Meteors/Comets:** Learn about these ancient artifacts, their formation, types, behavior, folklore, etc...
4. **Our Sun:** Structure and function of our closest star. Track sunspots and participate in forms of solar viewing. Learn how events on the sun affect satellites and life on earth.
5. **The Moon:** Structure and function of our closest natural satellite. Study theories of origin and its effect on the Earth. Learn about controversies that surround the moon, past and current plans for exploration and possible colonization. Etc...
6. **Space exploration:** Learn about future plans for space exploration as well as current and past efforts. From life in space to traveling through space. Etc...
7. **Star life cycle:** Study stars from their birth through to their often-violent death. Learn about molecular clouds, nebula, protostars, types of stars, and supernovas only to die into . . . etc...
8. **Black Holes:** formation, characteristics, time warping and general relativity.
9. **Galaxies:** Learn about these enormous collections of a few millions to trillions of stars, gas and dust held together by gravity. Galaxy sampling and classification activities will lead towards understanding of the galaxies in our universe. Etc...

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10. **Cosmology:** The study of the universe as a whole. Study scientific theories of the beginning, the middle, and the end of time, and the factors that **may** affect our universe such as dark matter . . . Etc...

11. **Life in the Universe (ET):** Study the likelihood of “life” beyond the earth. Learn about methods currently being used to search for extra terrestrial life, and play with speculation of “life-forms” that may form from planets of different gravity and chemical compositions. Etc...

WRITE in the answers to the following questions in the comment section of your scan-tron.

12. Is there any topic you would like to learn about astronomy that is not covered in the survey?
If so, what is it?
13. What questions do you have about this class?